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Our only comment upon this is, that the German Chancellor, who would wait until after the war, is wrong, that this highly desirable "association" is now the goal of states, and if it is well it were accomplished, it is well it were accomplished quickly.

## WE ARE FOR PEACE

NO ONE who has followed the course of this magazine can be in the least doubt about our attitude toward the military necessities of this war. We have accepted the verdict of America as expressed through our chosen representatives. We are quite convinced that this war cannot be ended, that there can be no end of war until after the collapse of the existing Imperial German Government. This is a military necessity, the physical achievement of which is the specific task facing the war machine of the nations arrayed against the European Central Powers. We are utterly out of sympathy with those who would obstruct in any way the efficiency with which we are attacking this job. Our moral judgment condemns those who do not support the United States, and that unequivocally in the performance of the physical task now set before us. The pan-German must be unhorsed. The forces that systematically stimulated the war spirit through the *Pan-German League*, the *Defense Association*, and their like, through the years immediately preceding August, 1914, are to be forever overcome by the combined physical strength of democracies. The German poet, Hermann Stehr, was wrong; the people of Germany are not to be "the masters of Europe." Von Edelsheim was mistaken when he said, in 1901, "Germany is the only great power which is in a position to conquer the United States." The drunken brains of might-worshipping men, who looked forward to the time when America "will be conquered by the victorious German spirit, so that it will present an enormous German Empire," need and are to receive a permanent cure. When the Kaiser said to our late ambassador, "America had better look out after this war; I shall stand no nonsense from America after the war," the Kaiser was right. He will not be called upon to stand "nonsense"; he will be called upon to stand sense. The crime against Belgium shall never be repeated. If we are able to judge the temper of the American people, if any information which we have upon the deplorable economic and political situation within the German Empire be correct, this war will end sooner than we have heretofore believed, and that with the collapse of the Imperial German Government. A necessary step toward this collapse is the continued and effective use of all the physical force we can command.

We stand for these things not because we believe in

war, but because we believe in peace. We are neither "bitter-enders" nor "knockouts"; we are not "munition makers," "money mongers," nor exploiters "battening on the carnage of war." We stand for these things because Germany as we know her is against popular government, against reparation for Belgium and Serbia, against the judicial settlement of international disputes, against the principles set forth by Woodrow Wilson, principles essential to any permanent peace, and because Germany is the arch exponent and employer of force as the sole means of achieving her ends. The Imperial German Government has developed such an opposition to international justice and good-will that the Imperial German Government must be overcome if international good-will is ever to prevail. The military and economic yoke of a successful Germany would, we believe, be subversive of the peace we must have. The peaceful commerce and neutral rights visioned by Benjamin Franklin and John Jay could not thrive in a world dominated by present German ideas. Thomas Pinckney's success with Spain in opening the Mississippi could never be extended into any hopeful internationalization of world waterways if Germany defeats the rest of us in this war. In short, the Imperial German Government blocks the progress of the cherished ideals of constructive peace workers everywhere. Germany's armies, ships, and air fleet must, under no circumstances, be allowed to dominate Europe or nations elsewhere. John Hay's assertion "that war is not only the most ferocious, but also the most futile of human follies" is as sound today as when it was uttered; and that the Imperial German Government must be made to understand. "Liberty and justice will secure a genuine and permanent triumph" when the Imperial German Government shows a disposition to meet the terms of "liberty and justice" set forth by the collective conscience of liberal democracy which the President of the United States has so clearly voiced. The "bleeding, weeping, warring world" will secure peace and justice only after the German people throw over their faith in the effectiveness of brute force. It is because we are opposed to the principle that brute force should impose its will upon the world that we support the United States as she goes forth to counteract that force and to demonstrate its futility.

It ought to be unnecessary for us to urge that we are for peace. There are still some, however, who find it too difficult to read more than a sentence here and there of the things we aim to express. Our page, "A Governed World," seems to be little read or understood. Every criticism that reaches us reveals an utter lack of attention to the main things and an irritable dislike for and misinterpretation of the details for which we have stood and stand. We are for peace, the peace that accompanies the pursuit of the common weal.